

ABSTRACT

A blood vessel wall-defining device for repairing an abdominal aneurysm. The device comprises a percutaneously-insertable structural frame extending between first and second ends having an unexpanded diameter which is smaller than the diameter of the blood vessel to permit the structural frame to be placed into the blood vessel. The structural frame being expandable to form a cylindrical structural skeleton having a slightly larger diameter than the blood vessel to facilitate the securing of the skeleton in position in the blood vessel. The skeleton has a sheath of a tubular fabric. The said structural frame has a plurality of spaced coiled stents prior to expansion which are uncoiled under the aegis of a balloon catheter and locked into position by ratchet means.